



**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS**  
**The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of**  
**The Bureau of Emergency Management**  
**Division of Emergency Services**  
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January 2006

**LEGISLATION WOULD REQUIRE SCHOOL EMERGENCY DRILLS** – The House Education Committee has approved a bill to require New Hampshire public and private schools to conduct all-hazards emergency exercises in addition to fire drills. The legislation, sponsored by Lebanon Democrat Lee Hammond, would require two all-hazards drills per year, in addition to fire drills. Schools would be given two years from passage of the legislation to develop site-specific emergency plans based on the Incident Command System of the National Incident Management System. Many New Hampshire schools already have such emergency plans and conduct exercises to test them in conjunction with the BEM Comprehensive Emergency Management Planning for Schools program. The bill received a unanimous vote of the Education Committee and is scheduled for a vote by the full House on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NUCLEAR PLANT EMERGENCY CALENDARS OUT** – Emergency public information calendars for people who live or work in the Emergency Planning Zones for the Seabrook Station and Vermont Yankee nuclear power plants were sent out early this month. The calendars contain evacuation routes and other emergency information in case of a nuclear plant accident. They also include an application form to obtain a free supply of potassium iodide and a return card to advise local emergency managers of people with special needs during an emergency. The calendars were distributed in the 17 Rockingham County communities in the Seabrook Station EPZ and the five Cheshire County towns in the Vermont Yankee EPZ. Anyone in these areas who did not receive a calendar or who needs additional copies should call the Bureau of Emergency Management at 1-800-852-3792.

**SEABROOK, RESPONDERS CONDUCT FIRST OF THREE EXERCISES** – State and local emergency responders from New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine and Seabrook Station personnel conducted the first of a three-exercise ingestion pathway sequence on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The first day of the exercise was similar to 10-mile plume pathway exercises that are held every other year. The second day covered a 50-mile radius from the plant, and required the development of a long-term recovery plan for the area. Public Health staffers plotted an exclusion zone where re-entry would be restricted. Other agencies developed plans to meet the needs of people displaced during the simulated accident. The exercise was observed by personnel from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

The second exercise will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The graded exercise will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

**VERMONT YANKEE STAGES SECURITY TABLETOPS** – Vermont Yankee held a preliminary tabletop exercise on January 18<sup>th</sup> involving security issues. An expanded version is scheduled to be conducted on February 8th. The purpose of the tabletops is to refine emergency response plans including security and to develop exercises to test them.

**BEM STAFFER ATTENDS NATIONAL HURRICANE COURSE** - Gregg Champlin, BEM's Natural Hazards Program Specialist, spent the week of January 9<sup>th</sup> at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida participating in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's new Hurricane Readiness Course. The purpose of the course is to train state and local emergency managers in the delivery of hurricane related hazards, risks and preparedness actions to their own parts of the country. Along with time spent in discussions with Max Mayfield, Director of NHC, topics covered were: NHC Operations and Forecast Capabilities, Preseason Readiness, Evacuation Decision Considerations, and Storm Surge, Wind, Tornado and Inland Flooding Hazards.

Also attending the course were emergency managers from many northeastern states, Louisiana, Texas, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAINING FOR FIRST RESPONDERS SET** - The Bureau of Emergency Management is sponsoring a four-hour training course titled "Psychological First Aid". This course will be helpful to emergency responders of all types. There is no cost to attend. PFA is an emerging intervention that can be used during the immediate response phase of any critical incident or disaster. The primary objectives of PFA are to promote safety, create calm, connect to others, self-empower survivors and instill hope.

By completing this training, participants will be able to: recognize opportunities to use PFA, demonstrate active listening skills, normalize psychological reactions as appropriate, teach stress management techniques, identify sources of interpersonal support and use crisis communication techniques with individual disaster survivors and disaster workers.

You may attend this training at any of these locations:

Concord – February 14, State Office Park South, Brown Building, 1-5 p.m.

Keene – February 21, Keene Public Library, 1-5 p.m.

Portsmouth – March 21, St. Nicolas Church, 1-5 p.m.

Littleton - April 10, Littleton Regional Hospital, 1-5 p.m.

RSVP to Paul Deignan, 1-800-852-3792 or [pdeignan@nhoem.state.nh.us](mailto:pdeignan@nhoem.state.nh.us).